# WEATHER IN THE UNITED STATES

#### THE WEATHER ELEMENTS

By M. C. BENNETT

#### GENERAL SUMMARY

The first half of June was unseasonably cold generally east of the Rocky Mountains, and the lowest temperatures of record for this month were recorded at a number of places, with freezing weather in portions of the Northwest. During the latter portion of the month, some unusually high temperatures occurred, with a considerable area extending from the northern Plains States to the southwestern border and the Gulf reporting temperatures of 100° or higher. While there was a decided difference in temperature during the early and latter portions of the month, the averages for the month as a whole were near normal for most sections of the country, except in New England and the Great Lakes region, where they were from 4° to 6° above normal.

The precipitation during the month was very local in

character and unequally distributed, portions of southern Florida receiving two to three times the usual amount, while more than the normal was received along much of while more than the normal was received along much of the Atlantic coast, the eastern and western portions of the Great Lakes, the upper Mississippi Valley, the southern Great Plains States, the extreme Northwest, and the far Southwest. Elsewhere the totals were generally below normal, much below in some sections. In the lower Mississippi Valley, and thence northeast-ward over the Ohio Valley, especially West Virginia and southwestern Virginia, very little rain fell during the month, and at the close of the month an unusually severe drought prevailed in West Virginia and some near-by sections. Scanty falls were also received from the Rocky Mountain region westward except in a few local areas.

### TEMPERATURE

June included several periods of decidedly hot or cool weather for the time of year, and the temperature changes sometimes came abruptly.

The month began with cool weather over practically all the eastern half and much of the western half besides. Usually in the eastern, south-central, and southwestern portions, the lowest readings of the month were noted on the 1st or 2d, and in the Ohio and lower Mississippi Valleys and everywhere to eastward they closely approached or even surpassed the lowest June temperatures of previous record.

In the Lake region and the North and Middle Atlantic States, there was a quick warming very soon after the 1st, and in much of the Northeast the highest marks of the month were noted on or about the 5th. West of the Rocky Mountain Divide, also, warmth came before the month was far advanced. It was in the Plains region, the Mississippi Valley, and the principal cotton region that the tendency to lower than normal temperatures remained longest; indeed, about all of the South Atlantic and Gulf States and of the southern half of the Plains experienced cool weather till after the middle of the month.

The final fortnight of June was mainly a little cooler than normal near and to westward of the Rocky Mountains, except it was warmer in New Mexico and considerable portions of the States adjoining. Practically everywhere east of the Rocky Mountains this fortnight

was hotter than normal, and notably so in the lower Mississippi Valley and most of the Southeast. The period from the 22d to the 26th brought temperatures that equaled or closely all proached the highest marks of other Junes in the central valleys and practically everywhere to eastward and southward.

The month averaged warmer than normal almost everywhere along the northern border and in Colorado and New Mexico and thence westward. The departures were considerable only in New England and the northern Middle Atlantic States, where they were largely from 3° to 5°. In New England the month was the hottest June of rec-The month averaged moderately cooler than normal in the far Northwest, also from Nebraska and Iowa southward and southeastward to the Gulf and South Atlantic coasts.

The highest mark so far reported is 121° on the 13th in southeastern California. The reading of 109°, seldom before reached in June east of the Mississippi River, was noted in Mississippi on the 26th, and there were but very few States where 97° or higher was not recorded at some station. The lowest temperature was 15° at an elevated point in Wyoming on the 14th. Freezing temperatures, or lower, were recorded at some point in most States from North Carolina, the Virginias, and Ohio northeastward, 22° in the mountains of Pennsylvania on the 1st being the lowest east of the Rocky Mountains.

## PRECIPITATION

There was a decided shortage of precipitation, for the country as a whole. Fully three-fourths of the States averaged less than their normal June quantities, and several States of large crop production received less than half. For much of the Ohio and lower Mississippi Valleys it was the driest June of record.

The third decade usually brought less rain than either

the first or the second decade.

The Florida peninsula had a marked excess of rain, and thence northward to New Jersey most districts close to

the coast received more than normal.

Though the immediate vicinity of Lake Michigan had less rain than normal, yet many parts of Michigan and most of Wisconsin had considerably more than normal. Most of Iowa and northern Missouri had ample rainfall, also the greater part of the Plains region from eastern and south-central Nebraska to northern Texas. West of the Rocky Mountains considerable portions of Arizona, Utah, and Washington received more than normal.

As usual in June, California was practically without precipitation save one mountain district and the northernmost counties. From Oregon, northern California, and southern Washington eastward to northern Colorado, northwestern Nebraska, and South Dakota, much less

than normal was usually received.

In the eastern half of the country the most notable area of deficiency extended from eastern Texas, western Arkansas, southeastern Missouri, and central Illinois eastward to and somewhat beyond the Appalachian crest. In large parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, and eastern Arkansas the rainfall was hardly appreciable, the month being one of the driest summer months ever experienced. Fortunately, most of this region had received liberal rain during May.

The vicinity of the Ohio River was less unfortunate in June than the immediate lower Mississippi Valley.